

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested. By this Amendment, Applicant has canceled claims 3 and 13 without prejudice or disclaimer. Therefore, claims 1-2, 4-12, 14 and 15 are now pending in the application. This amendment addresses each point of rejections raised by the Examiner and Applicant respectfully traverse all the rejections.

Claim 11 - 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

With respect to claim 11, the Examiner asserts that the claim fails to comply with the written description requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claim 11 to recite that the main board receives the operation command. Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 11 fully complies with the written description requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. In particular, the specification clearly describes that the extension board transmits its menu in HTML to the *main board*, then the *main board* displays the received HTML on a screen for a user command. (See Specification: page 8, line 30 - page 9, line 6; page 10, lines 10-17).

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the § 112, first paragraph, rejection on claim 11.

Rejection of Claims 1- 9 and 12-15

Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 9, and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as allegedly being anticipated by Chimoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,838,383; hereinafter “Chimoto”).

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 2, 12 and 14 to recite the features of dependent claims 3 and 13. Thus, amended claims 1, 2, 12 and 14 now recite:

each of the connectors of the backplane includes:

- a transmission signal line for a transmission signal for transmitting a control command of the main board to the extension board;
- an MPEG transport stream line for an MPEG transport stream;
- an analog audio/video signal line for an analog audio/video signal; and
- a selection signal line for a selection signal for selecting the extension board.

Applicant respectfully submits that Chimoto does not teach or suggest these features of the claimed invention.

According to the present invention, the backplane on which a main board portion and an extension board portion can be installed is provided on a multimedia backplane and each connector of the backplane has a predetermined signal standard for transmitting a transmission signal, an MPEG transport stream, an analog signal and a selection signal. As such, any board attached to the connector of the backplane will carry multiple signal lines of different types. However, the electrically coupled modules 303-316 described in Chimoto do not include the noted features of the amended claims (See Chimoto: Figure 1). Each of the electrically coupled modules 303-316 described in Chimoto are specifically contemplated to perform a specific function, and therefore, the modules do not include multiple signal lines of different types (See

Chimoto: col. 7, line 30 - col. 8, line 52). For instance, there is no disclosure or suggestion in Chimoto that the NTSC decoder module 303 carries a MPEG transport stream, since the module 303 receives and processes NTSC analog TV signals (See Chimoto: col. 8, line 64-67; col. 9, lines 1-13).¹ Further, Chimoto fails to teach or suggest the signal standard for transmitting *various* signals to *each* coupling portion of the backplane, in particular, the signal standard for transmitting the MPEG stream.

With respect to dependent claims 6, 8 and 9, applicants respectfully submit that both Trovato and Battini fail to make up for the noted deficiencies of Chimoto. Battini generally relates to a method of controlling household devices, and therefore fails to disclose or suggest the backplane carrying multiple signal lines of different type such as an MPEG transport stream or an analog audio/video signal, as recited in amended claims 1 and 2. Trovato simply lacks a backplane including a plurality of connectors.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 2, 12 and 14, as well as dependent claims 4-11 and 15, should be allowable because Trovato does not teach or suggest all of the features of the claims.

¹ Chimoto generally discloses a multimedia television receiver capable of receiving analog TV, digital cable TV and satellite broadcasting signals. As shown in Figure 1, multiple modules 303-309 are connected to a bus 302 for processing different signal standards where each module carries out a specific function (i.e., module 304 receives *digital* broadcast signals, and therefore there is no teaching or suggestion that the module 304 would handle analog audio/visual signals, as recited in amended claims 1 and 2.).

Rejection of Claim 10 and 11

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as allegedly being anticipated by Trovato et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,469,742; hereinafter "Trovato").

Claim 10 recites, *inter alia*, "determining whether the extension board is electrically coupled to one of a plurality of connectors of the backplane by *sequentially scanning* the connectors." The Examiner asserts that the noted feature of claim 10 is disclosed by Trovato at column 4, lines 29-61. Applicants respectfully disagree.

In Trovato, there is no sequential scanning of the connectors of the backplane being performed. Rather, in Trovato, the process of determining whether each module is coupled to the processor is performed through each module identifying itself to the processor (See Trovato: col. 1, lines 59-61; col. 2, lines 24-26). In fact, Trovato altogether fails to disclose or suggest the element of a backplane including a plurality of connectors. Trovato clearly states that each module 16 is coupled to the CPU 12 and other modules *directly* rather than being connected to a backplane including a plurality of connectors. (See Trovato: figure 1; col. 2, lines 24-26; col. 4, lines 13-14). Therefore, since the modules described in Trovato are connected directly to each other (thereby lacking the backplane including a plurality of connectors) and each module identifies itself to the processor, Trovato fails to teach or suggest at least the claimed sequential scanning of the connectors.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submit that claim 10 is patentable over Trovato since the cited reference does not teach or suggest all of the features of the claimed invention.

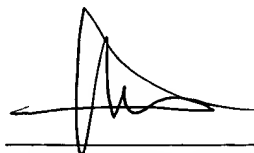
With respect to claim 11, Applicant respectfully submits that Battini fails to make up for the noted deficiencies of Trovato. Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 11 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency from claim 10.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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